

## Bathampton Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th., November, 2014 in the Village Hall, Bathampton

Present: Cllrs. A. McCann, G.Ardrey, M. Brennan, K. Jones and M.Richards.

1. Apologies: These were received from Cllrs. L.King, D. Mayo  
and S. Batterbury.
  
  2. Minutes of the last Meeting:  
The Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup>., October, 2014 had been circulated.  
Cllr. Brennan, seconded by the Cllr. Richards, proposed that these Minutes be  
accepted. Carried unanimously.
  
  3. Finance:
    - a) Approval of the Financial Report for October, 2014  
The report had been circulated  
It was proposed for approval by the Cllr. Richards and seconded by  
the Chairman. Carried unanimously.
  
    - b) Approval of Expenditure for November, 2014  
The Clerk reported that no invoices had been presented for payment .
  
  4. Group Reports
    - a) Planning & Conservation Group  
Cllr. Ardrey reported in the absence of Cllr. King.  
Another application for outline planning permission for the old Jewson's  
Yard has been received. This relates mainly to the means of access.  
New Leaf Farm, after many refusals, have put in an application for  
converting a barn into a workers dwelling taking advantage of some new  
regulations.  
We have received further documentation concerning the former M.O.D site  
on the Warminster Road to which we will respond.  
The Old Rectory in Bathampton Lane has sent an application to replace the  
internal stairs  
Cllr. King has attended a meeting with Batheaston Parish Council  
concerning the management of the new cycle track/footpath across the  
Meadows. We await her report. Cllr. Brennan said that she had not got any  
further with getting the speed limit on Mill Lane reduced
- M.B.**
- b) Highways Group  
The report had been circulated. Cllr. Brennan said that she had attended  
the V.P.A. meeting. The A.36 will be closed for a 180m length by Pendragon  
House possibly next March. Resurfacing work together with drainage work and  
several minor works will be carried out in our area at the same time.

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4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)(b) Highways Group (Cont'd.)

Cllr. Jones reported that she had attended the Annual Public Meeting of the Canal & River Trust. They described their plan for maintenance and repairs during 2015 which included some major engineering work. They are trying to recruit more volunteers and are trying to focus more on visitors than on boaters.

The Manager of the K.& A. Canal, Mark Stevens, has left his post and has a temporary replacement.

Extended stay charges have been placed on two boats and several others have had warnings.

c) Leisure & Amenities Group

The report had been circulated.

Cllr. Richards said that work is almost complete on the Lengthman's Hut. He has suggested that a noticeboard with canal information could be sited on the wall or the door. A garden area and some fencing is to be installed to prevent access to the roof from the grassed area of Jubilee Gardens.

He wished to purchase a litter bin and had found several suitable at different prices but proposed that we purchase the Broxap Derby E Slimline costing £239.50. This was seconded by Cllr. Ardrey. Carried unanimously. **M.R./CLERK**

Cllr. Richards mentioned the fencing around the allotments.

This promoted much discussion about whether fencing or hedging was best. No decision was reached. There is one vacant allotment plot at present which is in a poor state. An existing tenant is willing to take it on free-of-rent and will give it up if a prospective new tenant comes along. It was unanimously agreed to let him use it free-of-charge.

One sponsorship of £50 has been received from the Surgery for the Christmas tree. **M.R.**

Cllr. Richards reported that Mr. Haque, manager of the Village Stores, may be interested in using part of the Trading Hut for storage now that it has ceased trading.

The bus shelter outside the Village Hall is due to be installed by mid December.

Cllr. Richards has been pursuing B.& N.E.S.Council over anomalies in the plans of the grass cutting contract. There is a triangular area in Holcombe Close which has never been attended to by B.& N.E.S.Council and which has weeds and a tree growing in it. He asked if we could clear it and then install a membrane and cover it with shingle. It was felt that the cost would be around £85 and this was agreed unanimously. **M.R.**

A recent inspection of the play equipment showed that the seat and chain on the cable ride needed replacing. Cllr. Richards had obtained several quotes but the cheapest at £96 fitted was from a local supplier. Cllr.Ardrey, seconded by Cllr.Brennan, proposed that we purchase at this price. Carried unanimously. **M.R./CLERK**

Cllr.Richards then reported that a lady living opposite the play ground was forming a group to consider improvements to play ground.

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4. Group Reports(Cont'd.)

d) Policy & Finance Group

The report had been circulated.

The Chairman said that there was nothing further to add to his report. The Mott MacDonald Report on the Transport will not come out until after the general election. If there is a change of administration everything could change.

The Clerk had attended a Financial Briefing for Town & Parish Councils and he had circulated a report on the salient features as they affect our Council. One item of note is that new Model Financial Regulations have been issued by N.A.L.C. The Clerk will circulate these to the Chairman and Cllr. King so that they can be tailored to suit our needs.

e) Parish Web Site

In the absence of Cllr. Mayo, there was no report. However, Cllr. Ardrey said that he had put the all the approved Minutes for the past year on the Web site.

f) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter of thanks from Mrs Jane Sheperd, on behalf of the Maxi Lunch Club for the second instalment of the grant.

CURO had replied to our letter concerning the allocation of units at St. Nicholas Court. It was not a very satisfactory reply. The reply was passed to Cllr. Brennan who will pursue the matter

**M.B.**

A.L.C.A. has written to give preliminary notification of our affiliation fee for the year 2015 to 2016. It is £266.67 but will probably alter as the number of our electors changes.

5.. Matters Arising:

There is no news on putting the new cycle track/footpath across the meadows on to the Definitive Map as Cllr. Mayo was absent.

**D.M.**

6. Open Forum

Cllr. Brennan asked if anyone knew how much disruption would take place in the Village during electrification of the railway. It was agreed that such a major construction could not take place without increased traffic requiring access to the railway. She also asked how the Village Stores was working and whether it was being supported. She would be away for the V.P.A. Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup>., March.

Cllr. Jones announced that she would be resigning from the Council after the next meeting in December.

Cllr. Richards said that he had heard complaints about dogs on the playing field. This is a perennial problem and short of taking photographs of the offenders, or getting witnesses to come forward, there is little we can do.

Cllr. Richards also reported that "The George" had yet another manager.

7. .Date of Next meeting:

Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup>., December, 2014  
At 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.08 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman, 11<sup>th</sup>.,December,2014